

This, I address to whomever is finds the opinion of the common United States citizen the most valued at the FCC.

Long ago, when our country was founded, certain rules were placed to ensure a new nation would be maintained by the people who inhabit the land. Our forefathers could not have known how much society would eventually advance, nor could they comprehend just how we would change over the years. However, the concept of freedom was and still is what makes this country one of the best in the world.

I say one of if only because at times this great country makes some very questionable decisions, that for most average people seemingly happen over night. Information is key, and it is why I take great care and consideration when it comes to topics that I feel warrant further investigation on my part. I opened this letter with a look back to how this nation became a nation in the first place. While very simplified, it holds one key that, if I am to be honest, is what separates America from most other countries in the world today. That founding principle of "Freedom". It is what we went to war for when the Declaration of Independence was drafted and what our government is supposedly founded on. Our Bill of Rights is an old document, yet it is core to our beliefs as a nation. As noted before the Founding Fathers could not have foreseen how far we would go in terms of how people interact, most of which takes place on the internet. This is of course for better or worse, as with most things some people can take the internet to certain extremes.

One extreme is the loss of how neutral the internet is. In saying this I refer to how all content, again for better or worse, is treated on the internet as a whole. I am sure, as an adult you have found yourself at some point in life, if you have ever sat down to watch your Television there has been a time when you found nothing worth your time to watch. As it stands now, because of how the internet is currently, with its neutral standpoint, if you so wanted you could switch from your cable providers myriad of channels to some offerings from say Netflix or Hulu, maybe even YouTube if you wish. Now, if this were to pass the option would be severely limited if not outright taken away from the consumer.

Without delving into too much personal information I feel at this point I should formally introduce myself. I am Christopher Carpinelli, I am, at the time of writing this letter, a twenty-eight year old man. I served in the United States Military, Army 31-Bravo, otherwise known as Military Police. I deployed to Afghanistan between 2011-2012 and became a veteran in the year 2014. I lead an ok life, nothing to lavish I live with my wife and our pets in a nice two bedroom apartment in the town of Londonderry New Hampshire, The Granite State. Our state motto is "Live Free or Die." At this point I can only Imagine what you must be thinking, why did i just give you seemingly useless information about myself. The point is simple, it's to show that I am indeed a person, one who makes the best decisions I can to care for myself and my family. As it stands now I pay Comcast, they are one of the only internet service providers round my area, roughly two hundred and twenty dollars a month for what the call "HD premier" service

package. This includes most every channel they provide and about a one hundred and twenty megabyte download speed for internet services. Now, with how net neutrality is right now, outside of me thinking that is still perhaps too much money for what I am getting in terms of service, I can access pretty much anything I want. Whether it comes from YouTube, Netflix, Hulu or even online gaming with my computer or Xbox, it is all treated the same and it is all accessible to me as a consumer. I am grateful for this, because sometimes there is just nothing on TV and sometimes you want something else.

Were net neutrality to come to an end with this bill or regulation not only myself but quite literally every person who lives in this country would have to deal with additional charges to our internet service fees. While this might not seem apparent right off the bat it is something that in time would more than likely happen. In fact we did see this happen not that long ago when Comcast was purposely draining the bandwidth from a website, yours if I am not mistaken, when this issue came up a few years ago. They brought the internet to a grinding halt when they saw just how many people were up in arms over the regulations they were trying to let pass, and I am sure they were lobbying for it as best they could. However, the people won out that day and the internet remained neutral.

Here we are yet again, on the precipice of yet another battle for internet neutrality. I would hope at this point the line would have been drawn, but I suppose not. Once again I feel the need to bring history into this. If the Founding Fathers could see the state of disrepair the nation is in now I am sure they would at the very least be spinning in their graves. This is not the "Freedom" they wanted, this is not eh "Freedom" I fought for and it is certainly not the type of "Freedom" our bill of rights encourages. This is monopolistic in nature and only furthers the greed that major corporations see to be running away with. I hope, I can only hope, that this open letter to you people at the FCC can help put to rest this topic for the final time.

The internet is a place for communication, creativity, and if nothing else a place to enjoy one's time when nothing else is hitting the spot. Think of it as a nice meal from your favorite restaurant. You order your food, wait a bit, perhaps chatting with family or friends while waiting. You enjoy the feeling of time well spent, but then you get your food and you notice it's not quite whole. To get the rest of your meal, you need to purchase the Italian bundle, or the seafood bundle, maybe you need to get the gravy at an extra cost. Things are confusing, you have been to this place hundreds of times and this has never happened. You have always paid twenty three dollars and fifty cents for your favorite sixteen ounce steak, but now you need to add in an extra ten to get the seasoning just right or to get the marinade you know is best. The food is no longer neutral, it is being abused by the restaurant. So, outraged you move on to another restaurant, but you notice it's the same everywhere. All food providers are now expecting you to pay more for access to the food they want you to have, and not what you are actually hungry for.

We would never let a scenario like this ever happen, so why is this even an issue when it comes to the internet? I realize this has gone on long enough and might I say I am impressed

if you made it this far into my letter. I can only hope that you will listen to the population of this nation and put a stop to this before it is too late.

With thanks,

-Christopher Carpinelli